

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH EMERGENCY OUTREACH BUREAU CALWORKS MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

## DMH CALWORKS BULLETIN No. 04-02 BILLING FOR CALWORKS SERVICES ON THE INTEGRATED SYSTEM

December 15, 2004 (Revised 3-19-08)

TO: All DMH CalWORKs Mental Health Supportive Services Providers

FROM: Dennis Murata, District Chief

CalWORKs Program

SUBJECT: BILLING FOR CalWORKS SERVICES ON THE INTEGRATED SYSTEM

- 1. Purpose
- 2. Background
- 3. Integrated System
- 4. Clinical Functional Area:
- 5. Administrative Functional Area
- 6. Community Outreach Services
- 7. Frequently Asked Questions
- 8. Additional Information and Resources

#### 1. PURPOSE

This Bulletin No. 04-02 highlights the procedures for billing CalWORKs mental health supportive services under the Integrated System(IS).

#### 2. BACKGROUND

In 2003 the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH), began developing a new system for tracking and billing services to its mental health clients to be in compliance with HIPAA. This new system, known as the Integrated System (IS) provides the HIPAA standard eligibility transaction for clients enrolled in DMH programs to receive DMH services. It is important to remember that although some changes will result from the Integrated System, most changes come from HIPAA, the State and other rules and requirements. In the case of eligibility determination, the Integrated System is merely the vehicle that will bring providers into line with business rules that already exist but may not have been stringently enforced until now. Effective October 8, 2004, all DMH directly operated clinics and contracted agencies will be required to utilize the IS.

#### 3. INTEGRATED SYSTEM

There are two basic steps in the IS: entering a service and submitting a claim. There are also two sides in the IS: a Clinical functional area and an Administrative functional area. Services are entered on the Clinical side, but they will not be reimbursed unless they are submitted to the Administrative side. The Administrative side requires the data to be sent to DMH and other payers for payment. The areas that are available and displayed on each staff person's computer will depend on his/her job responsibilities. Consequently, some staff will be limited to only one functional area.

Entering data is done by navigating to fields and entering or selecting the appropriate data. Drop down lists are provided to speed data entry when there is a defined or limited range of data options for that field. Most of the instructions in this Bulletin are for drop down lists. A drop down list contains the items you must choose from for the particular field. You cannot type into a field that uses a drop down or search list. You must choose one of the items provided. General keyboarding tips to speed up data entry: use tab key to cycle through the forms; use shift-tab to cycle through in reverse.

Providers should follow the IS instructions for entering services and submitting claims. This Bulletin identifies specific choices for CalWORKs clients. The chart on the following page identifies critical points where data must be entered in order to correctly claim services for CalWORKs clients.

Agency/ Clinic Functions	IS Action Steps	Critical Points/Helpful Hints					
Pre-Enrollment							
Initial telephone contact.  Community Outreach Services activity	Client search and print screen	Critical Point: For DMH directly operated clinics, if case is not opened, claim MAA.  Helpful Hint: After COS activity, and client search is conducted and case is not opened, claim COS if appropriate.					
Enrollment of New Client: Client Unknown to DMH							
Face to face contact.  Support staff determines whether the client is known to DMH.  Clinical staff interview client. Determine that client is enrolled in GAIN (GAIN is the Welfare-to-Work program in CalWORKs; services may not be billed to CalWORKs unless the client has a mental health component open in GAIN).  Conduct intake and assessment.	Search client – Client not found  Add client Check eligibility Assign to CalWORKs plan (system assigns IS client ID #) Open episode	<ul> <li>Critical Point: <ul> <li>All clients must be assigned to the CalWORKs plan at this step. Failure to assign a client to a plan will prohibit continuing.</li> <li>Enter "Cal Works" in the Plan Tab.</li> <li>Make sure the Effective Date is correct.</li> <li>Do not bill Medi-Cal if you are claiming against the CalWORKs plan.</li> <li>Update plan if CalWORKs eligibility changes. (Updates are performed on the Administrative functional area, not Clinical and at the claim line level. However, this level may change in the future).</li> </ul> </li> <li>Helpful Hints: <ul> <li>Check that client has proper GAIN paperwork, i.e., GN 6006B.</li> <li>Submit PA1923 and confirm eligibility from GAIN if client does not have GN 6006B. The GN 6149 form should be received within five days.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>					

### Enrollment: Client Known to DMH - No Open Episode with Provider

Face to face contact.

Support staff determines whether the client is known to DMH.

Clinical staff interview client. Determine that client is enrolled in GAIN. Conduct intake and assessment.

Search client – Client found, no open episode within provider.

- · Update IS as needed
- Check eligibility
- Assign to CalWORKs plan
- Open episode

#### **Critical Point:**

- Follow existing procedures for change of SFPR.
- Client must be assigned to the CalWORKs plan at this step.
- Make sure the Effective Date is correct.
- Do not bill Medi-Cal if you are claiming against the CalWORKs plan.
- Update plan if CalWORKs eligibility changes. (Updates are performed on the Administrative functional area, not Clinical). On the Client Tab click on the green check in the "D" column.
- Click on Update Enrollment to change plans.
- Go back to Clinical and re-submit the Eligibility Check.

#### **Helpful Hints:**

- Check that client has proper GAIN paperwork, i.e., GN 6006B.
- Submit PA1923 and confirm eligibility from GAIN if client does not have GN 6006B. The GN 6149 form should be sent by DPSS within 10 days.

Agency/ Clinic Functions	IS Action Steps	Critical Points/Helpful Hints				
Community Outreach Services						
COS services that are mental health promotion or client community services.  Staff must complete the "Community Outreach Services and Case Management Support" (form 76C536 MH 227) for each service.	In the "Add Community Service" screen enter the appropriate information.  In the Program Area, select Welfare to Work. In the Funding Source, select Department of Public Social Services – CalWORKs. COS Service Codes are either: - 200 – Mental Health Promotion, or - 231 – Client Community Services	Critical Point:  COS is billed in increments of 15 minutes. Duration should be entered as 1 = 15 minutes. A 60-minute service is entered in the Duration box as 4.				

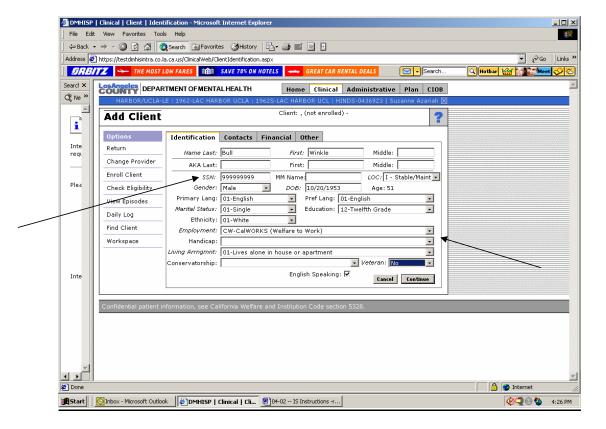
#### 4. CLINICAL FUNCTIONAL AREA

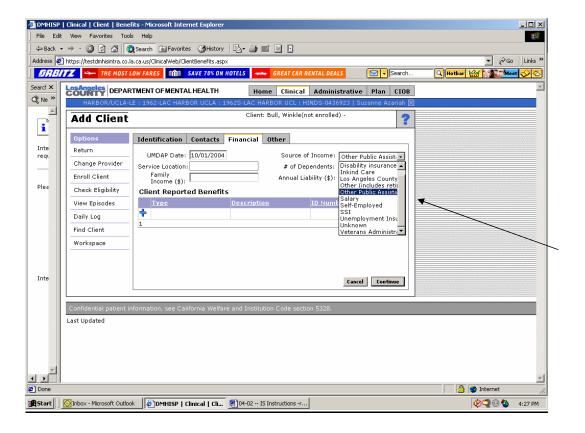
#### A. Adding A New CalWORKs Client

When a new client arrives at a provider agency, staff should search for the client in the IS to make <u>sure</u> the client has not been previously entered. This is done to avoid adding the same client to the IS multiple times. If a client does not exist in the IS, then the new client must be entered using the Clinical function area – "Add Client " screens. Under the "Financial" tab, the provider must enter any reported benefits from the client. Staff can also remove these benefits as they become inactive or no longer appropriate.

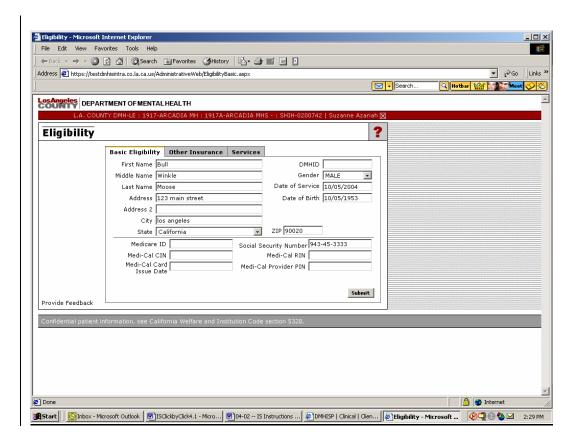
Do not bill Medi-Cal if claiming against the CalWORKs plan. However, the Medi-Cal box on the payer tab should remain checked, if CalWORKs is listed as one of the plans that you want the claim to be paid from.

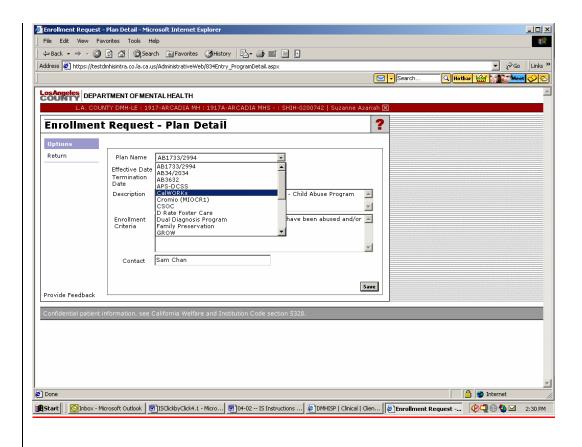
- > Under "Employment" Tab, enter "CW" for CalWORKs.
- > Under "Source of Income" Tab, enter "Other Public Assistance."
- All clients must have a valid social security number in order to be receiving CalWORKs. Verify the client's SSN as soon as possible if he/she does not have one at intake.





For new clients, an eligibility check will start automatically when you attempt to enroll them.





#### B. Enrolling a CalWORKs Client Into the CalWORKs Plan

In order for DMH to get paid for providing services to a CalWORKs participant, the client must be enrolled in CalWORKs. The DMH plans are associated with payers that may pay for all or a portion of the client's mental health services. Clients must meet criteria for each plan. A client can be enrolled in as many plans as needed.. For new CalWORKs clients, providers must use the drop down menu to enroll the client in the CalWORKs Plan.

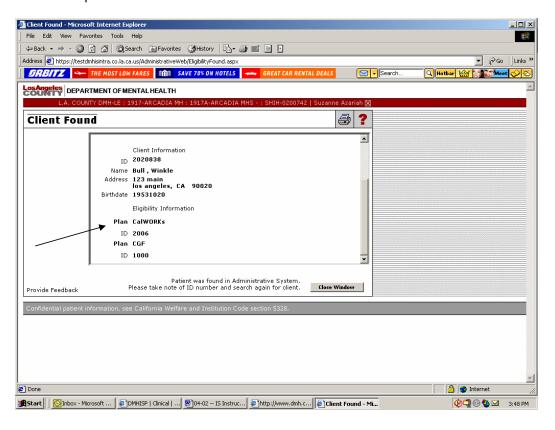
In the "Enrollment Request" screen, select the "Plan" tab to add the CalWORKs Plan. DMH managed plans are available from the drop down list in the "Plan Name" field. Click on the + to display the "Enrollment Request – Plan Detail" screen. Select "Cal/Works" as the client's plan. Key the correct Effective Date.

In the process of enrolling the client into a DMH plan, the client will be added to the MHMIS system. The provider will receive an MHMIS (DMH ID) number for this client that will be used as a basis for ongoing clinical and claim information.

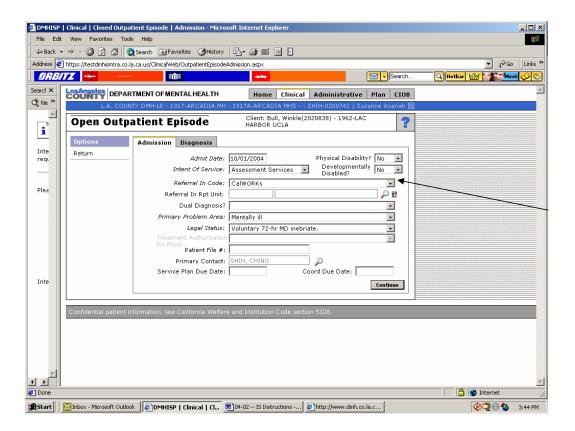
For new clients, an Eligibility check will start automatically when you attempt to enroll them. The IS requires that an eligibility check be conducted each month per client, per rendering provider, otherwise services cannot be billed.

#### C. Opening Episodes And Services

> A client must be enrolled in the IS before any episodes can be opened and a CalWORKs client must have an open episode. Verify that the client is enrolled in the CalWORKs plan during the eligibility check. The Eligibility Response Screen lists the plans the client is enrolled in.



- > Go to the "Outpatient Episode" screen to enter the required CalWORKs information.
- > In the "Referral In Code" Tab, Outpatient Episode" Screen, use the drop down screen to enter the referral source. It is no longer necessary to use "75" (CalWORKs) as the sole referral in code. Providers should use the appropriate referral in code. If the referral is from GAIN or CASC, then the referral in code of "75" (CalWORKs) should be used. It is important to enter the appropriate referral out code so that CalWORKs can track the outcomes of CalWORKs participants in the DMH system.

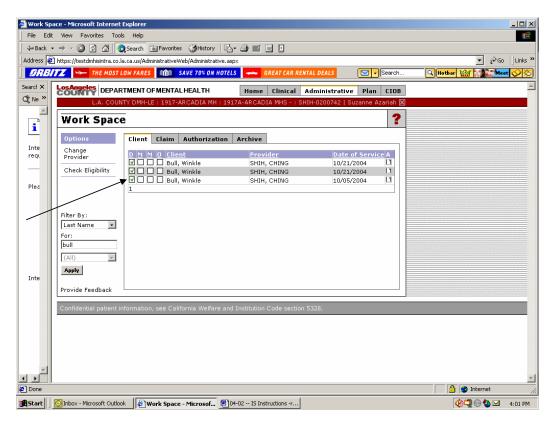


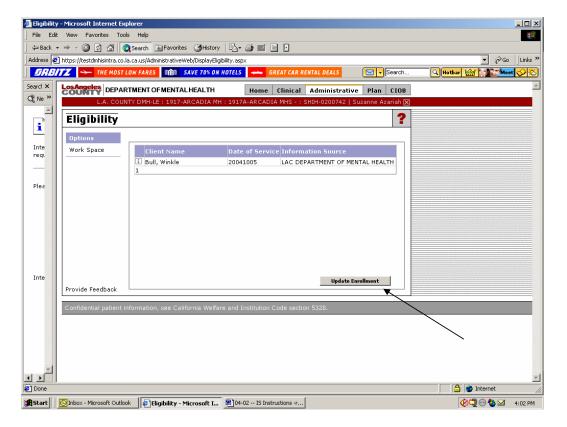
#### D. <u>Disenrolling CalWORKs Clients</u>

A CalWORKs client must be disenrolled from the CalWORKs plan if any of the following occur:

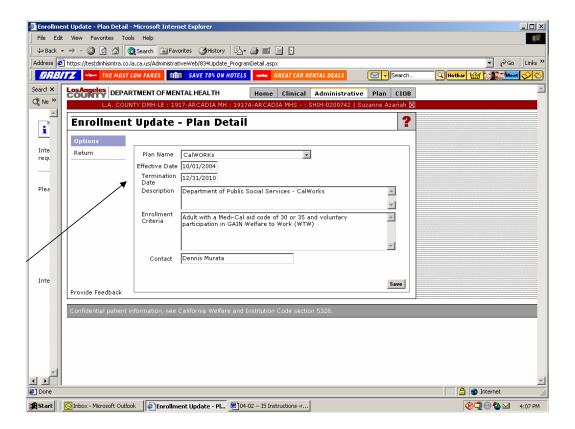
- Client has timed-out from CalWORKs (reached the 5-year time limit) AND has reached the one-year time limit for post-time limited services.
- DPSS/GAIN notifies the provider via the Termination Notice GN 6007 that the client is no longer eligible for services. (Provider should contact the GSW to confirm that the client is no longer eligible).
- Client is now enrolled in SSI (change in benefit plan is required).
- Provider terminates CalWORKs services to a client and is providing services billable to Medi-Cal or another payer source.
- Provider terminates all services to CalWORKs client.
- Client terminates services.

> From the Administrative functional area, select the Client tab. Click on the green check mark.





- > Click on Update Enrollment.
- > Click on the Pencil Icon next to the CalWORKs plan.
- > Key the Termination Date and click on Save.
- Add the new Plan if the client still requires services and is eligible for Medi-Cal and qualifies under Medical Necessity, is receiving SSI, or qualifies for another DMH funding source, then he/she can continue to receive DMH services. Claims will be billed to the new funding source and not to CalWORKs as long as the client is disenrolled from the CalWORKs Plan.
- > Follow the steps to complete the enrollment update.
- > Return to the Clinical functional area and do another eligibility check.



#### E. Closing Episodes for CalWORKs Clients

In addition to disenrolling, the provider must also close an episode for a CalWORKs client if any of the following occur:

- Client has timed-out from CalWORKs (reached the 5-year time limit) AND has reached the one-year time limit for post-time limited services.
- DPSS/GAIN notifies the provider via the Termination Notice GN 6007B that
  the client is no longer eligible for services. (Provider should contact the GSW
  to confirm that the client is no longer eligible).
- Provider terminates services to CalWORKs client. (Provider must notify GAIN via the GN 6007B, CalWORKs Supportive Services Enrollment Termination Notice.)
- Client terminates services. (Provider must notify GAIN via the GN 6007B, CalWORKs Supportive Services Enrollment Termination Notice.)

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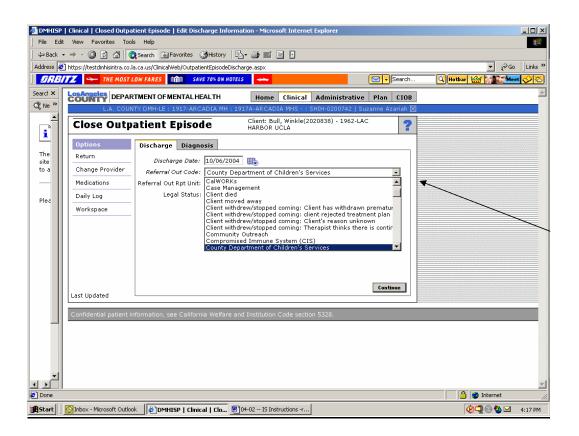
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Under the "Outpatient Episode" screen, click on the "Close Episode" button and input data.

- > Enter the Discharge Date. This date must be the same as the last date of service. For CalWORKs clients, the last date of service is a maximum of 30 days after the date when the provider receives the GN6011, Termination/STOP Notice from GAIN. No services can be provided under CalWORKs more than 30 days after receipt of this notice.
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  Deleted: Enrollment
- Under "Referral Out Code", be sure to enter the appropriate code. Use "CalWORKs" if the client is still receiving CalWORKs cash aid and is no receiving mental health services.
- > If services were terminated for the following reasons, use these codes:
  - Client timed out (reached 5-year time-limit) = 95 (Other)
  - Notice of Termination from DPSS/GAIN = 67 (DPSS) or 75

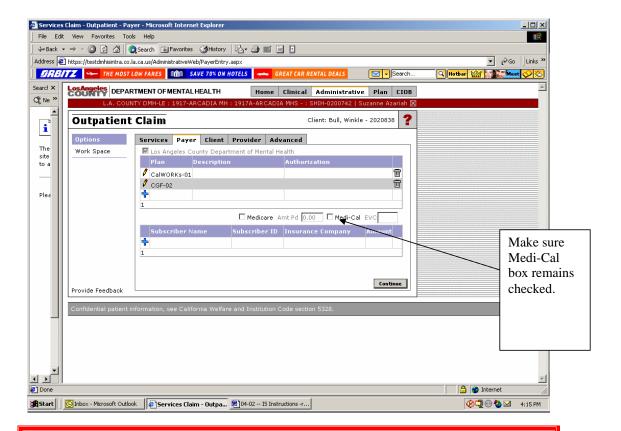


#### 5. ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONAL AREA

#### A. Submitting Claims

When submitting a claim for services to a CalWORKs client, it is important to verify that the participant is in fact enrolled in the CalWORKs plan. Claims ready for submission are passed from the clinical functional area to the Administrative functional area after a service has been rendered and an eligibility check performed.

In the Administrative function area, "Outpatient Claim" screen, be sure to leave the checkmark in the Medi-Cal box. Before April 20, 2005, it was necessary to unclick the checkmark in the Medi-Cal box, but now you must leave it checked in order to avoid problems processing your claim.

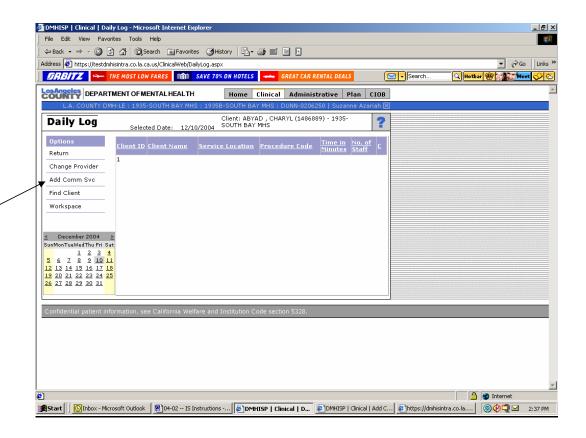


#### **IMPORTANT**

As of April 20, 2005 it is no longer necessary to unclick the checkmark in the Medi-Cal box.

#### 6. COMMUNITY OUTREACH SERVICES

Under the Clinical functional area, select "Add Comm Srvc" to bill for CalWORKs Community Outreach Services (COS).



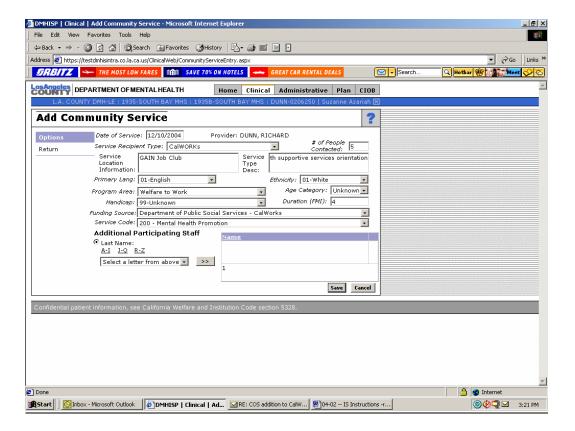
The blanks should be filled in according to the DMH "Community Outreach Services" form (COS Form v1) that has veen completed by staff, (The previous version of the COS form was referred to as the "Goldenrod,"),

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Support"

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- > Under Program Area, select 29 "Welfare to Work."
- > Under Funding Source, select "Department of Public Social Services CalWORKs.
- > Under *Service Code*, select either 200–Mental Health Promotion or 231–Client Community Services.

The Service Location Information and Service Type Description require information to be typed in, according to the specific location and type of services provided. Be complete when filling in these two sections. Click SAVE when all data has been entered.

#### 7. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR CALWORKS PROVIDERS

Deleted: <#>How will the IS track CalWORKs cases - those currently Will CalWORKs participants be placed in a "plan"? opened and any new cases?¶ Yes. For new clients there is a drop down menu that a user may select to add Current CalWORKs clients in MHMIS will be converted into the IS. CalWORKs to the client's enrolled Plans. New CALWORKS clients may be assigned to CalWORKs in the IS by the clinician/support staff.¶ What happens when a CalWORKs participant terminates services from the Formatted: Bullets and Numbering CalWORKs program? The user should disenroll the CalWORKs participant from the CalWORKs plan. Formatted: Bullets and Numbering How will a former CalWORKs participant be switched to Medi-Cal? Formatted: Bullets and Numbering A user would disenroll a client from CalWORKs. Medi-Cal is not a Plan, but a benefit. If the client is eligible for Medi-Cal, then Medi-Cal would be billed (as long as he/she is disenrolled from CalWORKs). How will the system track CalWORKs funding to CPT Codes? Formatted: Bullets and Numbering The client is tracked by their Plan, not the CPT code(s) If a client is opened by two different agencies, does the second agency keep the Formatted: Bullets and Numbering original cycle date? I know they keep the original UMDAP date, but does that pertain to the Coordination Plan and Services Plan? If the client's case is still open at the original agency when the new episode is opened, the original cycle date goes with the client at the new agency. If there is no open episode at the time of admission then the new admit date becomes the cycle date. What is the difference between Client Benefits and Plans? Formatted: Bullets and Numbering Client reported benefits are things such as Medi-Cal, Medicare, and other private insurance. A Plan is a LA county DMH managed funding source. Do I need to add an existing client to the system again if they change locations in • Formatted: Bullets and Numbering the county and go to a different center to receive services? No. Client information is available to all DMH locations. However, the new center must enter a new episode for the client at their location. You should also complete the transfer of coordinator paperwork and the SFPR should be changed. Can I review coordination plan dates and service plan dates to know when a plan ---Formatted: Bullets and Numbering needs to be renewed? Service Plan and Coordination Due dates are set on the Outpatient Episode

Service Plan and Coordination Due dates are set on the Outpatient Episode Admission screen. A report through the IS will also be available to track the renewal of service plans.

Quantum Can I add a client to the IS without actually enrolling the client? Yes, you can. A client added to the IS becomes a permanent record that can be retrieved by anyone with access to the IS. For example, if an individual made an appointment to come to a center and the intake staff took information about the individual in advance of the appointment, the individual and the information gathered Formatted: Bullets and Numbering

would be added to the IS. If the individual failed to show up for their appointment and went to another center for services, the Intake staff at the second center would be able to locate the client record in the IS and continue gathering information.

The IS enables you to search the entire DMH database for both individuals who have been in contact with DMH, but not enrolled, and enrolled clients. Information about the individual is entered in the Add Client screen. This is the same screen you use to add clients that will be enrolled.

10. Why should I check eligibility before enrolling a client?

Eligibility will indicate if the client already exists in the Administrative portion of the IS. Some providers, such as FFS, may not use the Clinical portion of the IS. Therefore, it is possible to have a client enrolled in DMH without finding a clinical record for them. This prevents a duplicate ID being created for the client. In addition, this process will confirm the client's eligibility for Medicare and Medi-Cal.

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11. If I enter the correct Clinical information, will my claim automatically go through? There is a Clinical side and an Administrative side in the system. Services are entered on the Clinical side but they will not be reimbursed unless they are submitted to the Administrative side. The Administrative side requires the data to be sent to DMH and other payers for payment.

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12. If a client is enrolled in more than one plan, which plan will a claim be billed against and who makes this determination?

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The client should only be enrolled in the CalWORKs Plan.

13. If my agency is SFPR for a client and we discover that another provider has initiated services for the same client, whose responsibility is it to pursue coordination of services? I was trained that if the services we are providing are not approved by the SFPR (coordinator), that they are not reimbursable.

All services at contracted and directly operated clinics must be approved by the SFPR in order to be reimbursable. If another site decides to provide services and they wish to be reimbursed they need to request that their services be added to the SFPR's Coordination Plan. As the SFPR, if you know services are being provided that you believe are in the best interest of the client, you might explain this for the other site so they can get paid.

<u>14.</u> Which Employment Status Code should I use for CalWORKs clients? Providers should enter in "CALWORKS" as the employment status code.

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16. Which Referral In code should I use for CalWORKs clients? Previously we were instructed to use "75" for CalWORKs clients.

It is no longer necessary to use "75". The Referral In and Referral Out codes should reflect the actual method that a client was referred in (e.g., walk-in, DPSS, etc.).

#### 8. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND OTHER RESOURCES

Additional information is available at the DMH website, <a href="www.dmh.co.la.ca.us/hipaa">www.dmh.co.la.ca.us/hipaa</a>. On the Website, information is available for Manuals and Online Training on the Training Page; HIPAA-Compliant I.S. Forms/Data Entry Forms on the Forms Page; Procedure Codes Manual under Transactions and Code Sets; Answers to Frequently Asked Questions on the FAQ Page; and Privacy Policies and Forms on the Privacy Page

For general questions regarding IS, contact the HIPAA Hotline at (213) 351-2823 or email <u>HipaaHotline@co.la.ca.us</u>.

For questions regarding CalWORKs, contact the following:

Service Areas 1 & 7	Liz Duran		213-738-4438
Service Area 2	Liz Gross	_	213-738-4253
Service Area 3	Susan Donner	_	213-738-2534
Service Area 4	Lonna Bennett		213-738-3103
Service Area 5	Bing Lau	_	213-738-4976
Service Area 6	Sylvia Braswell	_	213-639-6771
Service Area 8	Ioma Hawkins	_	213-739-7339

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